

**TWO MEETINGS in JUNE**  
**for Great Glen, Oadby and Wigston u3a (ggowu3a)**  
**Wednesday, 12 June 2024**

Speaker: **Mary Campbell**  
(Co-chair, Friends of the University of Leicester Botanic Garden)  
***The University of Leicester Botanic Garden***  
***- how it came into being***

at **Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF**  
Doors open at 10:00 am for hot drinks and socialising  
Meeting starts at 10:30 am. Prospective members welcome £1 per person  
and

**Wednesday, 26 June 2024**

Speaker: **Richard Warren**  
***Thomas Cook, Rags to Riches***

at the **Liberal Club, 82 Bull Head St, Wigston LE18 1PA**  
Doors open at 1:30 pm for socialising. The meeting starts at 2:00 pm.  
Refreshments at 3:00 pm £1 per person

## **Chair's Chat**

**Hello everyone**

Patricia and I are just back from a short break on the Norfolk coast, a stretch we had not previously visited. It really did seem like spring until heavy rains drove us back a day early! Much as we enjoyed the idyllic setting, it came as a shock to learn from the local landlord that in his opinion they would be lucky to have another twenty years – perhaps only fifteen if the severe winter storms persist – before the village has been swamped. Certainly, the evidence of tidal erosion is all too apparent. Made me reflect again how uncertain life can be and how important it is to make the most of what we have. Just what u3a is all about, of course!

Returns have started to trickle in from members responding to the unusually bulky wodge of AGM papers. It is important that as many members as possible play an active part in taking the decisions that lay the foundations for our newly amalgamated GGOW u3a: the future constitution and the membership of the Committee to take things forward on a sound footing. **To do this you need to complete and return no later than 5 June the Attendance Form, if you plan to attend the meeting on 26 June at 13.45 in the Wigston Liberal Club (before the speaker), or your proxy Voting Form, if unable to do so.**

Great Glen Village Hall is holding an Open Event from the evening of 14 through 15 and 16 June to showcase the village and raise funds towards the next stages of the development. We wish this well, and you will find GGOW u3a on display in the exhibition.

Best wishes to you all

Robert Mansfield

[chair@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:chair@ggowu3a.co.uk)

0116 270 8284

### Tea Rota for Monthly Meetings at the Liberal Club, Wigston LE18 1PA

Two volunteers are needed on the last Wednesday in each month.

Please sign up on the Tea Rota.

Contact: Fay: 0116 281 1812

### Catering Rota for Monthly Meetings at Great Glen Methodist Church LE8 9EF

Group Leaders, please arrange to provide three members for the meetings. The kitchen should be staffed from 9:45 to 10:30 am. It is not necessary to bring milk but please bring tea towels. Many thanks, Di Richardson

[groupcoordinator@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:groupcoordinator@ggowu3a.co.uk)

Book Group (Thursday) June 12

Carpet Bowls July 10

Classic Cars Aug 14

Croquet 1 (Tuesday) Sept 10

A message from our Membership Secretary:

### WELCOME PACKS

It has been brought to my attention that some new members have not received a Welcome Pack. This consists of 5 documents and a newsletter. If you have supplied us with an email address, the Welcome Pack would have been sent to you via email. If we have no email address for you, then it will have been sent to you by post.

I am assuming that Royal Mail will have delivered those sent by post. If you should have received yours by email do let me know if it hasn't arrived. Please be sure to check your junk or spam folder first. These Welcome Packs do contain useful information, including your membership number. Thank you.

Janet Fanko

[membership@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:membership@ggowu3a.co.uk) or telephone 0116 462 4679

## GROUP NEWS (in alphabetical order)

### ART GROUPS x 2

First and third Thursdays in the month at 2:00 pm

#### Art

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF, Ruth Warner Room

Our next meetings are **Thursdays, 6 and 20 June.**

The theme is **costumes and clothes from history**, in any medium.

Rachael Snashall

[art@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:art@ggowu3a.co.uk)

### Art Appreciation

Third Monday in the month, 10:00 am - 12 noon.

Fox Pond Pub and Grill, LE2 4RG

In May, we visited **Compton Verney** (<https://www.comptonverney.org.uk>). A tour of the galleries was enjoyed - given by an exceptional curator. At our May meeting, our opinions varied widely on the *King's portrait!* Antony Gormley's large scale sculptures were well presented by a member. We then used Picasso's *Guernica* as a segue into 'war' as depicted in paint, woodcut prints and by Ukrainian children. We are all still 'learning to look' using a variety of artists and genres. Knowledge of art, or art ability, is not required. You will be welcome!

June Juett

[AA@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:AA@ggowu3a.co.uk)

## BOOK GROUPS x 2

**Book Group - Thursday** Fourth Thursday in the month at 10:00 am  
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF, Ruth Warner Room

Our next meeting is **27 June 2024**. The book is *A Terrible Kindness* by Jo Browning Rhoe. New members are very welcome in our inclusive group.

Patricia Mansfield [books2@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:books2@ggowu3a.co.uk)

**Book Group - Monday** Third Monday in the month at 2:00 pm  
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

The next meeting of the Monday Book Group will be on **17 June** when our book is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Our book for July is *Exiles* by Jane Harper.

Liz Adams [books@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:books@ggowu3a.co.uk)

## CARD GAMES x 2 Duplicate Bridge



Wednesdays at 1:45 pm,  
Great Glen Methodist Church, LE8 9EF

If you enjoy bridge, come and join us! If you do not know the duplicate system, we will teach you. We are a friendly (Non-League) Social bridge group playing Duplicate Bridge **on Wednesdays at 1:45 pm for a 2:00 pm prompt start, finishing at approximately 4:45 pm.**

We welcome new members.

Andy Tyler [duplicatebridge@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:duplicatebridge@ggowu3a.co.uk)

## Minibridge

Every Tuesday morning, 9:45 am for 10:00 am start  
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

Anyone wishing to join our friendly group will be welcome. If you would like to try Minibridge please contact me in advance, so that I can give you more details. Previous experience of playing Bridge or Minibridge is not required, and we are sure you will enjoy playing!

Terry Evans [mbridge@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:mbridge@ggowu3a.co.uk)

**NEW - Carpet Bowls** First and third Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
Great Glen Village Hall, L2 9GG

Carpet Bowls is an indoor game played on a long and wide carpet, like outdoor bowling. Use the link to see how to play: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8T0TWoTSzU>. There is limited free parking at the Village Hall with accessible spaces. The cost will be **£2.00 per person**.

Refreshments provided. Everyone is welcome. **Please contact me if you wish to attend.**

Peter Stanley 0116 259 2152

**Classic Cars** First Wednesday in the month, 2:00 pm.

Our next meeting is **5 June**. In the summer months we visit other Classic Car gatherings and/or organise a Car Run to an interesting venue. Any car enthusiast is welcome to join. For details of the route of this month's Car Run please contact the organiser:

Bob Smith [classiccars@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:classiccars@ggowu3a.co.uk)

**Croquet x 3**  
**Croquet (Thursday)** First and Third Thursdays in the month 10:00 – 11:30 am.  
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

This is a small group activity with an occasional vacancy; our next meetings are **June 6 and 20**. Anyone interested is invited to enjoy a hot beverage while watching the action and learning the basics. Call for further information.

Joan Bateson 0116 259 3191

**Croquet (Tuesday)****Tuesday Croquet group 1:30 – 3 pm  
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF**

This group is currently full, but we can take the contact details of prospective members for the future, when there may be vacancies.

*Geraldine Siddons*

0116 241 3947

**NEW!  
Indoor Croquet****First and Third Thursdays, 11:30 – 1:00 pm  
Great Glen Village Hall, LE8 9GG**

This group is beginning to form, next meeting on **Thursday, 6 June**. The game is played like outdoor croquet with players trying to hit balls with mallets, through a course of hoops. Unlike outdoor croquet, the area of play is restricted by the size of the room, and the hoops are not stuck into the ground. Players need to be reasonably mobile as there is moving from hoop to hoop and some bending down to support the hoops while other team members play. Please contact:

*Di Richardson*[groupcoordinator@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:groupcoordinator@ggowu3a.co.uk)

0116 288 9892

**DANCING x 2  
English Country Dancing (ECD)****Tuesday afternoons, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm.  
Burton Overy Village Hall, LE8 9EW**

The group will continue its weekly **Tuesday afternoon meetings until Tuesday 25 June and will then break for July and August**. Details of when **dancing will resume in September** will be published in the July and August Newsletters.

We dance a mix of traditional and modern country dances, spanning over 400 years, in Circle, Square and Longways formations. The dances are explained and walked through. Singles are welcome. Wear light, flat shoes or sandals, comfortable clothing. Prepare to join in and laugh – a lot! Anyone interested in joining for fun and gentle exercise, both physical and mental, contact:

*Peter Meacock*[ecd@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:ecd@ggowu3a.co.uk)

0116 279 3600

**Line Dancing Thursday mornings, 10:30 am – 12.30  
Burton Overy Village Hall, LE8 9EW**

Line Dancing is thriving! We have Country and Western, modern, waltz and Latin American music, something to suit everyone. We have dances that are new, old, easy - and some a little harder. We all need a challenge, especially one that is enjoyable! Interested in learning or are returning after a break? Join our friendly mixed ability group. A fun and different way to exercise!

*Jackie Jordan & Maggie Ward* [linedancing@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:linedancing@ggowu3a.co.uk)**EATING OUT x 4  
Lunch Club****We meet the penultimate Wednesday, every second month,  
at 12:30 pm at *Two Steeples*, Bell Street, Wigston, LE18 1AD**

There is parking at the rear of the premises. **Our next outing is 19 June 2024**. The food is good and the company convivial. Search online for the menu – we mostly order from the lunch menu. This is a group of about 20 members who each pre-order with Lilian at General meetings or at:

*Lilian*[lunchclub@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:lunchclub@ggowu3a.co.uk)**Meet & Eat Third Tuesday in the month, at the *Italian Greyhound*, Great Glen, LE8 9GF**

We meet at *The Italian Greyhound* in Great Glen. **Next lunch is 18 June 2024**. Lunch is pre-ordered from a menu with a choice of two courses at £15 or three courses at £19 (plus discretionary tip) both including coffee. If you would like to join us, please contact:

*Trevor Johnson*[meetandeat@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:meetandeat@ggowu3a.co.uk) - no later than Friday, 14 June

**Pub Lunches**

After the U3a monthly meeting,  
the 2nd Wednesday in the month. Venues vary

We meet after the monthly meeting, 12 June, to enjoy a lunch together in a local pub. We have occasional vacancies and encourage you to call if interested.

Margaret Hudson

0116 271 5064

**Sunday Lunches**

Second Sunday in the month 1:00 pm  
at *Glen Gorse Golf Club, LE2 4RF*

The next lunch is **Sunday 9 June**. Please let me know whether you will, *or will not*, be coming, by telephone **0116 2791509**, no later than the Friday preceding the lunch. This is a popular group, and we need to confirm numbers attending. Looking forward to seeing you.

Judith Measom

0116 279 1509 – **no later than Thursday 6 June**.

**NEW! A (Gentle) Exercise Group**

Are you interested in doing gentle exercise with other members of our u3a - either sitting or standing? Would you like the opportunity to do gentle exercise for an hour on a weekly, fortnightly, or monthly basis? Can you offer ideas for gentle exercises? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, please contact me to see if we can start up a new group.

Di Richardson [groupcoordinator@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:groupcoordinator@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

**Film Group** Second Monday in the month, 2:00 pm. Great Glen Methodist Church LE8 9EF

Monday 10 June 2pm £2.50

***Wicked Little Letters***

– a dramatised tale of a true story of poison pen letters, in a small village, in the early 1900s.

**Stars: Olivia Coleman, Jessie Buckley, Timothy Spall**

Refreshments available from 1:45. Film starts at 2:15 pm

If you have not attended before, please contact me first.

Peter Russell [films@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:films@ggowu3a.co.uk) 07759 831604

**GAMES x 2  
Games**

Second Wednesday at 2:00 pm at The Menphys Hub  
Bassett Street, South Wigston, Leicester, LE18 4PE

The next meeting is **Wednesday, 12 June**. We use the free library area at The Hub which has a selection of table games available, and members often bring their own favourites. We love trying something new! *Line-up 4, Phase 10, Scrabble, UNO, and Whist*, are all popular. Cakes, snacks, and hot drinks are available. This is a popular group, so please contact:

Kath Bailey

[games@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:games@ggowu3a.co.uk) for information on available space.

**GAMES  
Tabletop Games**

Second and Fourth Thursdays at 2:00 pm  
Great Glen Methodist Church LE8 9EF

We will be meeting on **Thursdays, 13 and 27 June 2024** for an afternoon of fun, friendship, and some brain exercise. *Canasta* remains a favourite, but we have a variety of board games – number and word ones - and two of our members regularly play chess. Please contact me if you have questions or would like a taster session.

Helen Edwards [ttgames@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:ttgames@ggowu3a.co.uk) 0116 212 7547



## **GARDEN GROUPS X 2**

### **Garden Visits**

**Second Friday in the month, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm, various venues**

Next meeting is **14 June at 2:00 pm** at a Great Glen home being rewilded for nature, and on **12 July** at an Oadby home. **There will be no meeting in August.** We visit gardens and parks for low-key outings. **Venues are determined by weather, emergence of flora, safe conditions.**

*June Juett*

[gardenvisits@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:gardenvisits@ggowu3a.co.uk)

Car sharing encouraged

### **Garden**

**Second Monday in the month, at 10:00 am**

The Garden group continues, with the next meeting on **10 June at 10:00 am** at **Cherry Lane Garden Centre**, Countesthorpe. For details, please contact:

*Lillian Greengrass*

0116 221 9737

## **HISTORY x 3**

### **Family History**

**Fourth Wednesday in the month, 10:00 am,  
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9FE**

The next meeting will be **Wednesday 26 June at 10:00 am** in the Methodist Church Hall. The topic for the meeting is *sharing how we organise our information – and what we might learn from each other*. New members are welcome. There will be **no meeting in July or August**.

*Dennis Cook*

[familyhistory@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:familyhistory@ggowu3a.co.uk)

## **History Group - OPEN EVENT! Leicester Cathedral Revealed An Open Meeting arranged by the History Group**

**Monday 3 June at 2:00 pm, Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF**

Refreshments available from 1:45 pm. £2.00



**Mathew Morris**, one of the best local speakers in his field, is the speaker at our meeting on **3 June**. See the details below. **This meeting is open to members who do not attend History group. If you would like to attend, please contact me.**

The construction of Leicester Cathedral's new Heritage Learning Centre reveals a snapshot of life in Leicester over the past 2,000 years, including a possible Roman shrine, an Anglo-Saxon building, and a burial ground in use from the late Saxon period to the 19th century.

**Join archaeologist Mathew Morris from the University of Leicester Archaeological Services for a talk about the recent archaeological excavations at Leicester Cathedral and what they tell us about the lives of the people of St Martin's parish and the story of Leicester.**

*Peter Russell* [history@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:history@ggowu3a.co.uk) 07759 831604

### **Military History**

**First Wednesday in the month, Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF**

We meet next on **5 June** when we shall look at the development and operation of the V Bomber force in the context of the Cold War and British aircraft design and manufacturing, post World War 2. We are a mixed group with interests in military history. Our programme covers campaigns, battles, and weapons, used over a broad range of time periods.

*Alan Mawby*

[militaryhistory@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:militaryhistory@ggowu3a.co.uk)

### **Knit and Natter**

**First Thursday in the month at 2:00 pm at the  
Menphys Hub, Bassett Street, South Wigston LE18 4PE**

Our next meeting will be on **6 June**. In the friendly (free) library area at the Hub, we have access to the café. There is room for around a dozen busy bees so do join us – we have spaces.

*Kath Bailey*

[KnitandNatter@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:KnitandNatter@ggowu3a.co.uk)

07974 523079

**KURLING - New Age Kurling****First and Third Wednesdays at the****Liberal Club, Kelmarsch Avenue, Wigston, 1:30 pm until 3:30 pm**

**New Age Kurling** is played indoors on a hard floor. Players roll their 'stones' close to a target. The nearest stone wins, scoring 1 point. Stones can be pushed by a 1.2m pole for those who cannot stoop, but who have mobility in arms and shoulders. The distance between the pusher and the target is typically 5 to 10m. The game is usually played by pairs of players in two teams, with 2 stones each. (4 Red stones & 4 Blue stones), over 6 or 8 ends. The team with the highest score wins. **If you have an interest in this activity, please contact:**

Peter Williams

[Kurling@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:Kurling@ggowu3a.co.uk)**LANGUAGES x 2****Latin****Privata visneti****Private venue**

A small, friendly group meets in a member's home to read and/or translate from textbooks.

For availability and further details, please contact:

Jennifer Bell

0116 288 0234

**French***Lieu privé, domicile d'un membre.**Il y a de la conversation et de la lecture dans cette réunion de groupe conviviale.***Private venue**

There is conversation and reading in this friendly group meeting in a member's home.

For availability and further details, please contact:

Jennifer Bell

0116 288 0234

**MUSIC x 2****Music group****First and Third Fridays in the month 10:00 am – 12:30 am****Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF**

Melodies and hidden gems from a variety of genres await you on **7 and 21 June!** The music group formerly in Wigston has joined with a group in Great Glen. Former members and new members are encouraged to attend. The group welcomes all who share a love of music. Contact:

John Gough

[music@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:music@ggowu3a.co.uk)

0116 259 2430

**Ukuleles****Second and Fourth Mondays 10:00 am-12 noon****Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF**

We are a friendly group who love to play music together on ukeleles. We have spare instruments if you want to give us a try - without having to buy a uke. New members, who, perhaps, have never played before, are welcome. Why not join us?

Julie Franks

[ukes@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:ukes@ggowu3a.co.uk)**Photography****Third Wednesday in the month, 2:30 pm, Fox Pond Inn, LE2 4RG**

The next meeting is **Wednesday, 19 June**. We shall be reviewing our photos from Barkby on the topics of '**Yellow**', '**Unusual Angles**' and '**Old**'. We are a friendly group; new members are welcome. Both cameras and phones are used. If this appeals, why not sit in on a meeting and you can then choose to join the group if you wish.

Peter Russell

[photography@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:photography@ggowu3a.co.uk)

07759 831604.

**Psychology****First Wednesday in the month, 10:00 am-12 noon, Fox Pond Inn, LE2 4RG**

We next meet on **Wednesday 5 June**. The group will be brainstorming ideas as to what topics we wish to consider for exploration in future meetings. We have lively discussions on subjects within psychology, with every member researching and contributing. We have explored topics such as aging well, memory, gas lighting, cults, and nature vs. nurture.

Contact me and I shall add your name to the waiting list: Ash Vaja [Psychology@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:Psychology@ggowu3a.co.uk)

**QUIZ GROUPS X 2****Quiz (Zoom)****Fourth Monday in the month: A Zoom Meeting**The next **Zoom** meeting will be **24 June**.

If you would like to join our June meeting, when I shall be asking the questions, please contact me, Rachael Snashall, or Peter Russell, who will give you the details.

*Peter Russell/Rachael Snashall*    [zoomquiz@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:zoomquiz@ggowu3a.co.uk)

**Quizzers****First Monday in the month, 10:30 am****(except Bank Holidays when it will be the second Monday in the month)****Menphys Hub, Bassett Street, South Wigston (free car park at rear)**

Our next meeting is **Monday, 3 June**. We are a small friendly group. While we laugh a lot, we learn a lot. Did you know that a crocodile cannot stick out its tongue? Tea, Coffee, and Cake are available. If you would like to join us, contact:

*Ron and Margaret Gee*                      [quizzingforfun@ggow.co.uk](mailto:quizzingforfun@ggow.co.uk)    0116 288 0536

**TABLE TENNIS X 2****Table Tennis - Monday****Mondays, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm,****Roger Bettles University Sports Centre, Manor Road, LE2 2LL**

We are a mixed ability group. New members are welcome. We shall be playing 27 May and **every Monday in June**. However, the University has informed us that, due to electrical and heating work, the **Studio will not be available for the whole of July**.

Details for August will be published in the next Newsletter.

*Janet Freestone*                              [tabletennis@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:tabletennis@ggowu3a.co.uk)

**Table Tennis - Friday****Fridays 11:00 am to 1:00 pm Sports Centre****Manor Road, LE2 2LL**

We are a mixed ability, friendly group playing mainly doubles, for fun and exercise. We also meet for occasional social outings. More details can be found on the U3A website or feel free to contact me by email or message on 07975 905970.

*Jay Bhikha*                                      [tabletennisFriday@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:tabletennisFriday@ggowu3a.co.uk)    07975 905970

**WALKING GROUPS x 3****Easy Strolling****Third Thursday in the month 10:30 am****Various venues, some where parking charges may apply**

The next stroll will be on **Thursday 20 June**, meeting at the **War Memorial in the centre of Market Harborough at 10:30 am** - originally planned for May, cancelled due to weather.

We now aim to go to the **Attenborough Arboretum, LE2 3TQ in July**. We are a group of about a dozen who like a leisurely stroll around a park, or in the countryside, for around an hour, usually with a coffee stop at the end. If you would like to join us, please contact:

*Ron and Margaret Gee*                      [easystrolling@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:easystrolling@ggowu3a.co.uk)

**Village Strollers** *Local History/Heritage venues*

**A variety of venues and dates are emailed to members on request.** Details and invitations will be sent out at the end of May. The next stroll will be at Gilmorton. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please contact me:

*Roger Edwards*                              [villagestrollers@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:villagestrollers@ggowu3a.co.uk)

**Walking without Stiles****Third Thursday in the month, various venues**

The June walk will be on **Thursday, 20 June**, a circular walk from Evington to Blackthorne Lane. The following walk will be on **Thursday, 18 July 2024**. Please contact me if you would like to join us, so that we know whom to expect - and I can let you know if weather conditions mean we must cancel.

*Elizabeth Cooke*[walking@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:walking@ggowu3a.co.uk)

07957 288 060

**Writing for Pleasure****Fourth Tuesday in the month at 2:15 pm,  
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF**

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, 25 June**. We are lively group with different interests, styles, and preferences. At our meetings we share what we have written, enjoy chatting about related matters and plan next steps. New members are welcome; please let me know in advance if you would like to experience a taster session.

*Robert Mansfield*[writing@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:writing@ggowu3a.co.uk)

0116 270 8284

**Sunday, 16 June is Father's Day**

A closing quotation suggested by our Membership Secretary:

**'Do not grow old, no matter how long you live. Never cease to stand like curious children before the Great Mystery into which we were born.'**

*Albert Einstein*

Your suggestions/feedback on the newsletter are welcome: [newsletter@ggowu3a.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@ggowu3a.co.uk).